

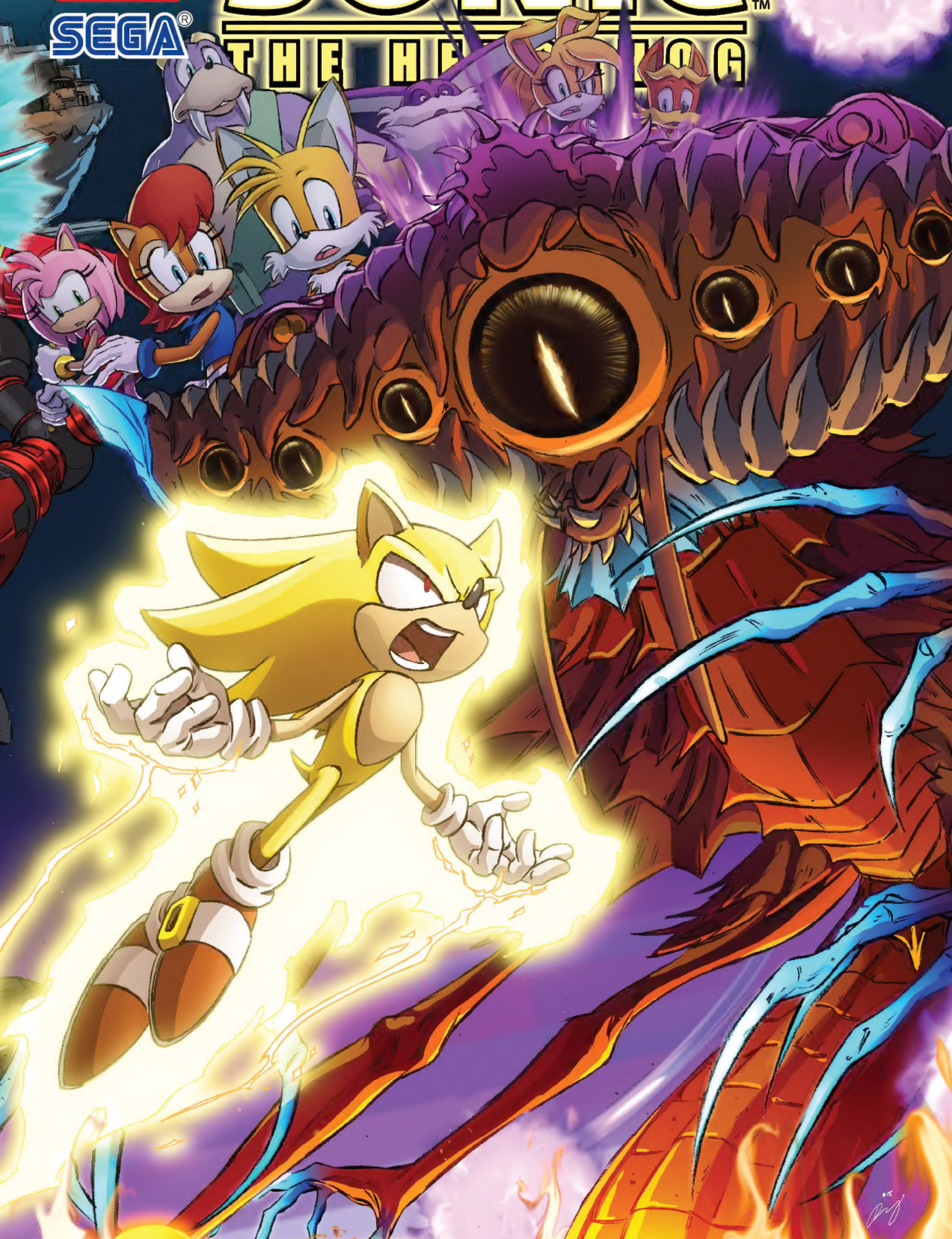
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SEGA[®]

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG | 287

PANIC IN THE SKY - PART 4 OF 4

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!



**CHARACTER
= SELECT =**

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

THE STORY SO FAR...

SUPER SONIC

CHAOS EMERALD
SUPER-CHARGED HERO

CHIP/LIGHT GAIA

WITH THE GAIA COLOSSUS

THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS

WORLD HEROES

DARK GAIA

WORLD-DESTROYING
BEAST OF DARKNESS

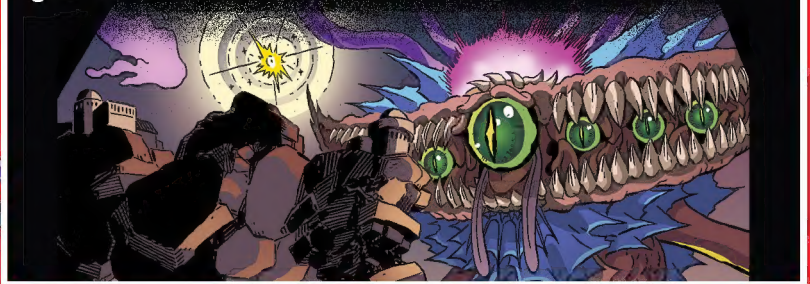
THE LIGHT AND THE DARK

One of Dr. Eggman's mad schemes to take over the world went awry, splitting the planet into pieces and unleashing the long dormant spirits: Light Gaia and Dark Gaia. Light Gaia lost its memories and power, but was soon taken in by Sonic and friends and given the nickname "Chip."

Dark Gaia disintegrated and poured over the shattered world. Monsters made of its essence rose up at night, people were driven to depression and hopelessness, and Sonic became infected, turning into the fearsome Werehog.

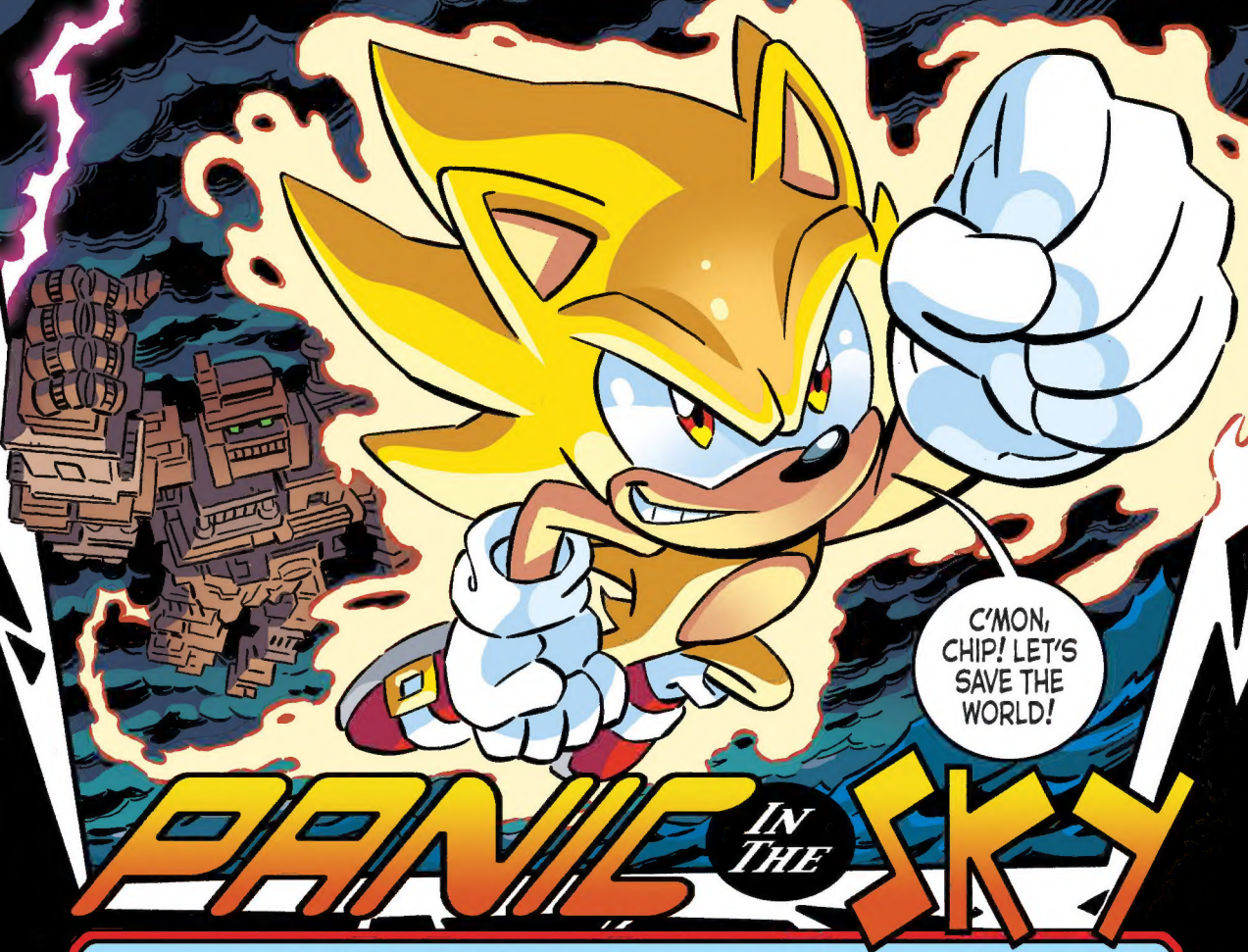
Sonic, Chip and the Freedom Fighters sought out the power of the seven Chaos Emeralds and Gaia Temples, which were foretold to end the crisis. Meanwhile, Dr. Eggman gathered up all of Dark Gaia's energy for his own use. In the end the temples combined into the mighty Gaia Colossus, and the collected dark energy reformed into the terrifying Perfect Dark Gaia.

Now Super Sonic leads Chip, piloting the Gaia Colossus, into battle against Perfect Dark Gaia. Together they must defeat the destructive god—or watch the end of the world.



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (ISSN 10705090), No. 287, December, 2016. Published monthly by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 629 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100, Pelham, NY 10803-1242. Jon Goldwater, Publisher/Co-CEO, Nancy Silberkleit, Co-CEO, Mike Pellerito, President, Victor Borelick, Co-President. Single copies \$3.99. Subscription rate: \$47.99 for 12 issues. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. ©SEGA. All rights reserved. SEGA is registered in the US Patent and Trademark Office. SEGA, the SEGA logo, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, SONIC UNIVERSE and SONIC BODM™ are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA Holdings Co., Ltd. or its affiliates.

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C'MON,
CHIP! LET'S
SAVE THE
WORLD!

PARANIC IN THE SKY

PART FOUR: FINALE—AS WAS FORETOLD

WRITER: IAN FLYNN • PENCILS: TRACY YARDLEY • INKS: TERRY AUSTIN

COLORS: GABRIEL CASSATA • LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN

COVER BY DAN SCHOENING AND LUIS ANTONIO DELGADO

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PRESIDENT: MIKE PELLERITO • PUBLISHER AND CO-CEO: JON GOLDWATER

SPECIAL THANKS TO SANDRA JO AND MAI KIYOTAKI AT SEGA LICENSING





Sonic!
Dark Gaia
is raising a
shield
with those
things!

WELL, WE
CAN'T HAVE
THAT! I'LL
TAKE DOWN
THESE SNAKE-
WHATEVERS!

SPLORCH

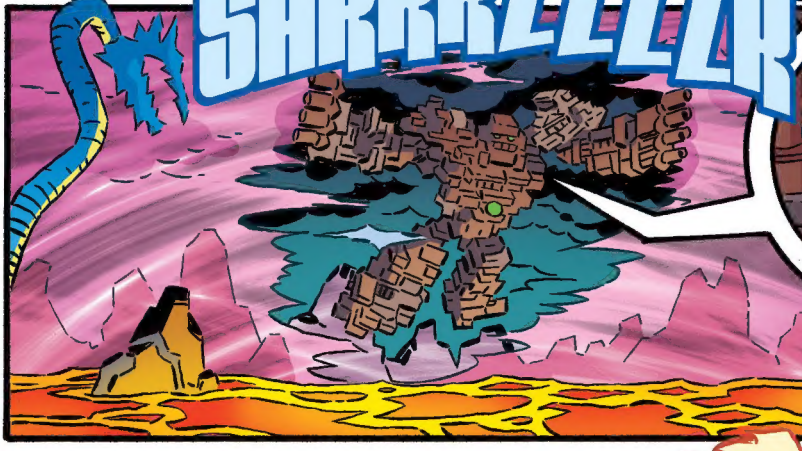


Then
I'll keep
Dark Gaia
distracted!

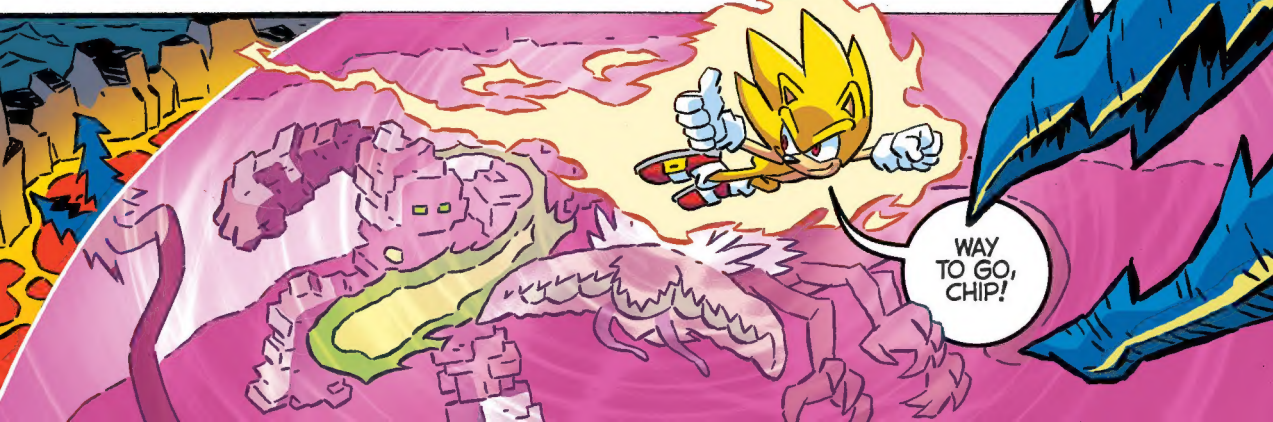
HOW
ARE
YOU
--?



SHRRZZZZ



**HRRR--
RRRAUGH!**



WAY
TO GO,
CHIP!



Sonic!
Look out!

ZORCH!

AHHHH!

...I
ACTUALLY
FELT
THAT...

I HOPE
EVERYONE'S
KEEPING A SAFE
DISTANCE...



A comic book page showing Sonic and his friends in a blue and yellow boat on a dark, stormy sea. The boat is labeled 'SONIC'. In the background, there's a volcanic island with lava and a large, multi-colored dragon-like creature flying in the sky. The scene is filled with action and tension.

WE SHOULD
BE SAFELY OUT
OF RANGE!

I THINK
THOSE ARE
RELATIVE TERMS
AT THIS
POINT...

ZE DEATH
EGG...SHE IS NOT
MOVING...?

I'M GUESSIN' IT'S
FINALLY OUTTA GAS.
THE DOC WAS
PRETTY DESPERATE TO
GET THAT DARK GAIA
ENERGY.

WHAT'S
GOT ME MORE
CONCERNED
IS AH DON'T
SEE THE SKY
PATROL NO-
WHERE.

OH,
MY GOSH--
DOWN
THERE!

HANG ON, GUYS!
THE HANGAR ENTRANCE
IS SUBMERGED, SO I'M
GOING TO HAVE TO LAND
US ON THE DOME!



ROTOR!
WHAT--?!

THE DEATH EGG BLEW US OUT OF THE SKY. NICOLE'S AS SAFE AS SHE CAN BE IN THE SERVER, BUT THE SKY PATROL IS DOWN FOR THE COUNT.

SO GRAB A SODA AND LET'S WATCH SONIC SAVE THE WORLD.

WE CAN STILL HELP! I CAN TAKE THE TORNADO AND...

THIS IS A BATTLE OF THE GODS, BUDDY. THE TORNADO DOESN'T HAVE THAT KIND OF FIREPOWER. LET SONIC AND CHIP DO THEIR THING WITHOUT US GETTING IN THE WAY.

AH KNOW THAT LOOK--QUIT BLAMIN' YERSELF, SAL. WE DID EVERYTHING WE COULD. YOU DID EVERYTHING YOU COULD.

I KNOW. AND ROTOR'S RIGHT. I JUST WISH WE COULD DO *MORE*...



BE THINKING OF IT THIS WAY, MA PRINCESS. DOCTOR EGGMAN JUST LOST MANY OF HIS SUPER-BADNIKS...AND A WHOLE BASE. ZAT HAS TO COUNT FOR SOMETHING, *NOW?*



YOU'RE RIGHT. WE'RE IN THE HOME STRETCH, AND WE'VE GOT TWO OF OUR BEST UP THERE. WHAT THEY NEED NOW IS FAITH AND SUPPORT.

GO GET 'EM, GUYS. WE BELIEVE IN YOU!

CRASH!

ROOOOAR!

SHRINK!!!

THAT WAS
TOTALLY ONE
OF KNUCKLES'S
MOVES!

HaHa!
well,
I don't think
I can make
this thing
Spin Dash!



LET'S KEEP IT UP! I'LL KEEP HIM DISTRACTED, YOU PUT HIM DOWN!

Right behind you, Sonic!

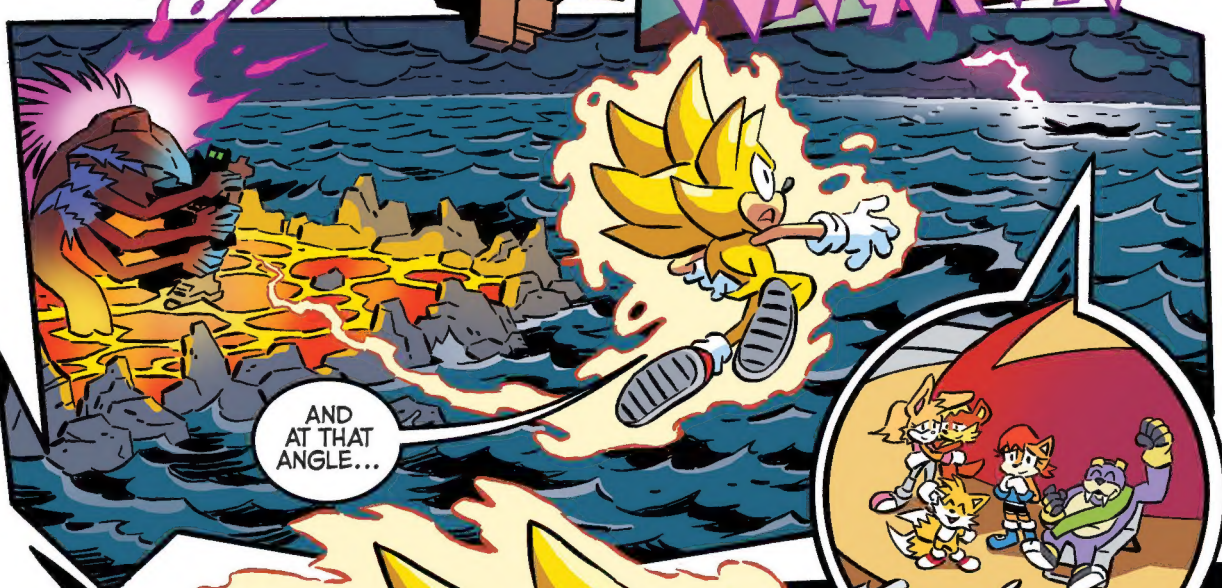




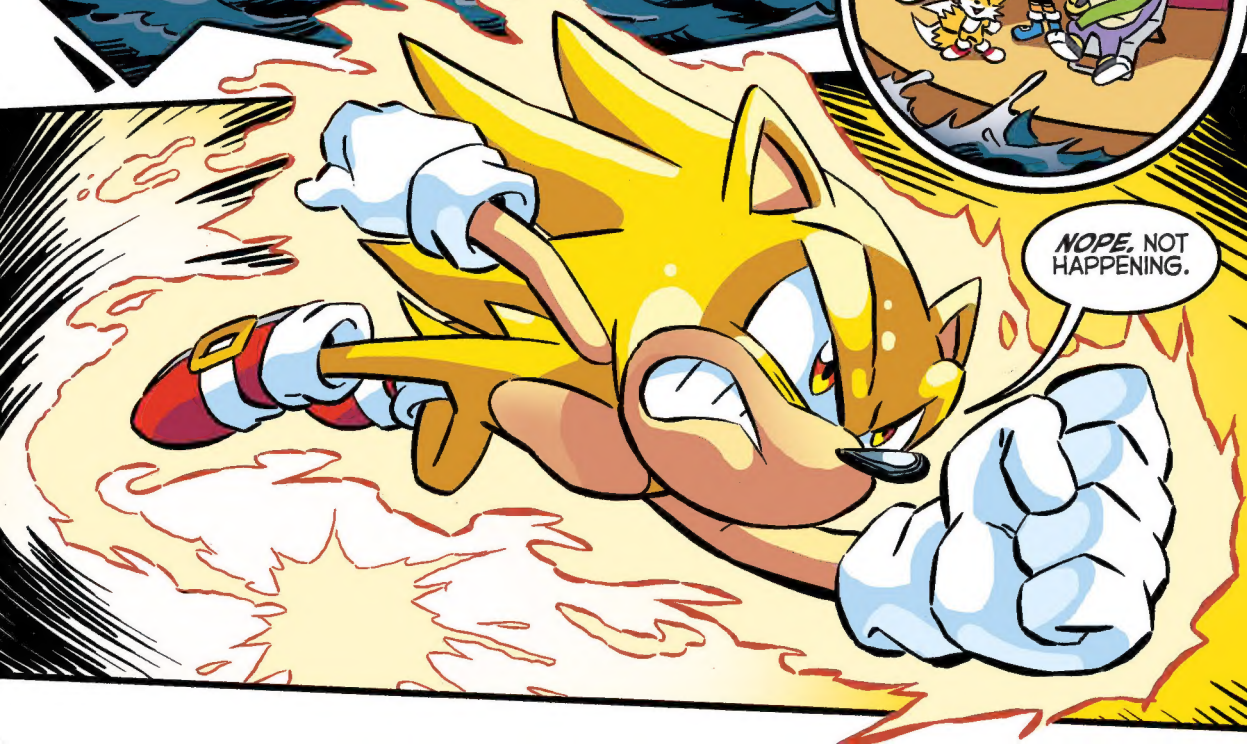
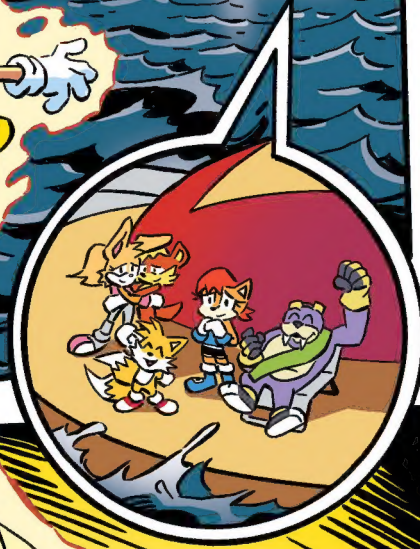
AHH!
Sonic!
It's got
me!



It's
charging up!
I don't know
if the Gaia
Colossus
can survive a
point-blank
shot!



AND
AT THAT
ANGLE...



NOPE, NOT
HAPPENING.



AND ONCE AGAIN, MY ATTEMPTS AT HARNESSING AN ELDritch ELEMENTAL POWER FALL THROUGH...

AND AT GREAT PERSONAL COST, NO LESS! NEVER MIND THE RESOURCES... I REALLY LIKED THAT AMUSEMENT PARK!

AND I WAS SO CLOSE TO FINALLY POWERING THE DEATH EGG! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO STRIKE FEAR INTO THE HEARTS OF MY ENEMIES WHEN I RUN OUT OF GAS JUST GETTING INTO RANGE?!

ALTHOUGH...

...THE RAW POWER OF THE WORLD IS MUCH MORE POTENT THAN I IMAGINED. IT COULD WORK JUST AS WELL AS THE DARK GAIA ENERGY.

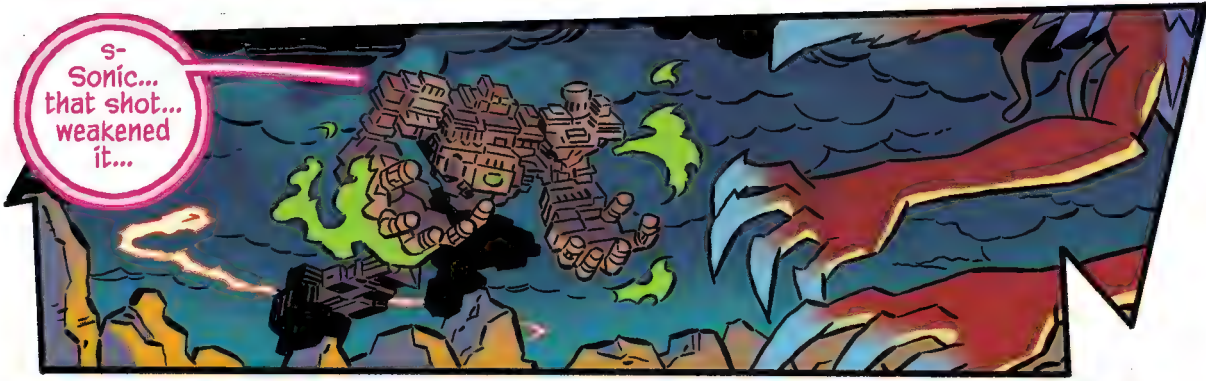


IF I COULD FIND A WAY TO SIPHON IT... SOME PLACE REMOTE WHERE SONIC WOULDN'T FIND ME AND RUIN MY PLANS AGAIN...

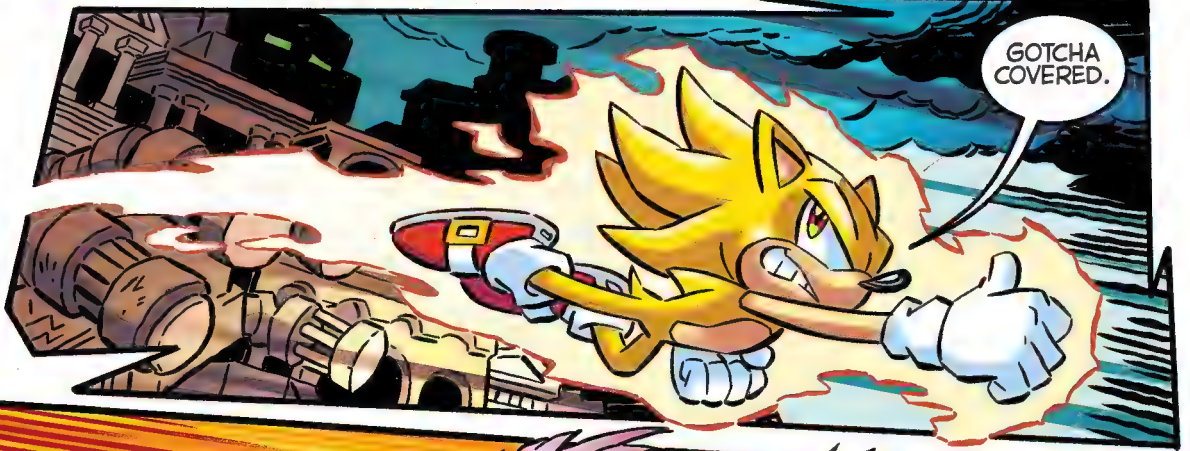
BAH! THAT'S PLOTTING FOR ANOTHER DAY.

I NEED TO GET OUT OF THE RANGE OF DARK GAIA--OR THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, IF THEY MANAGE TO RALLY!

S-
Sonic...
that shot...
weakened
it...

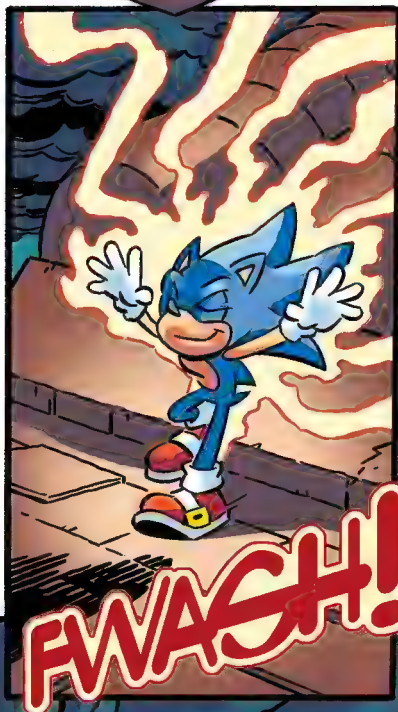
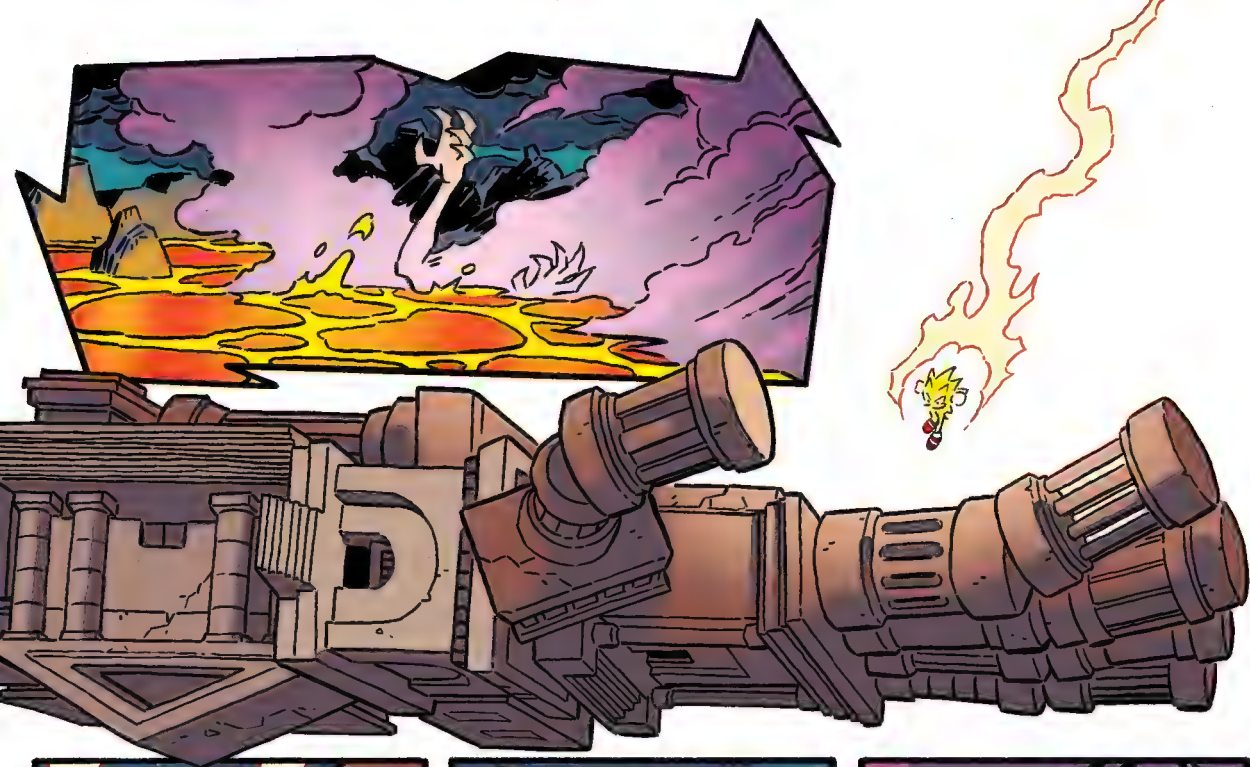


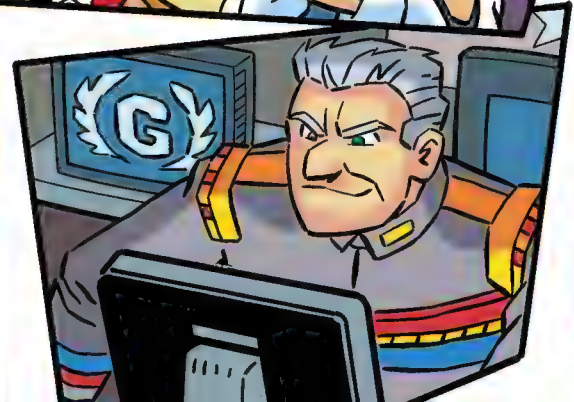
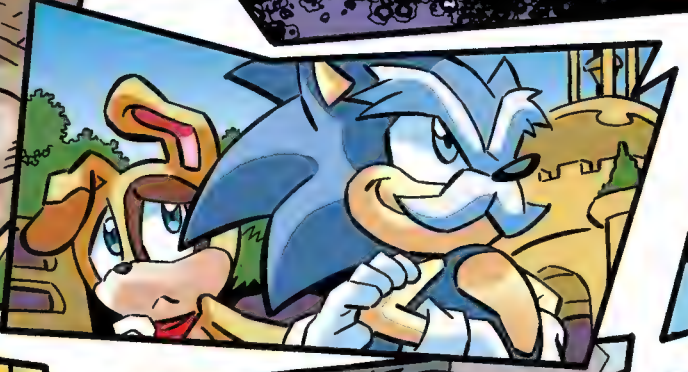
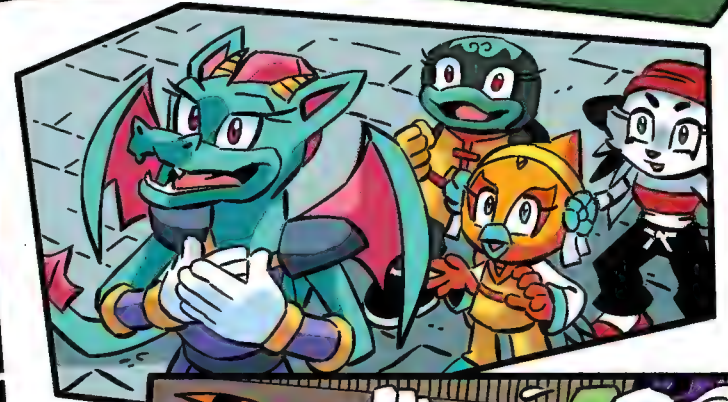
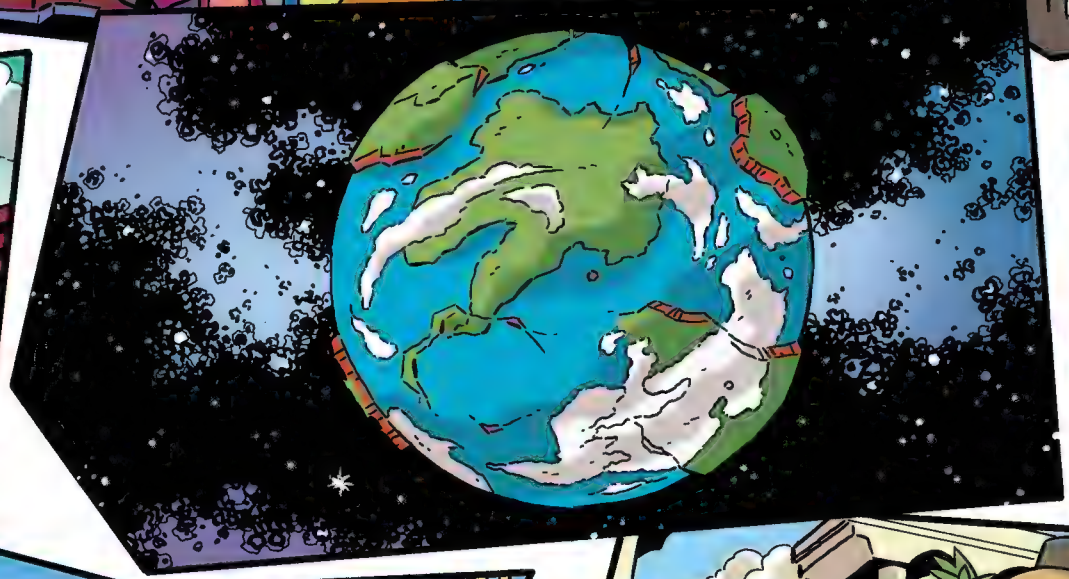
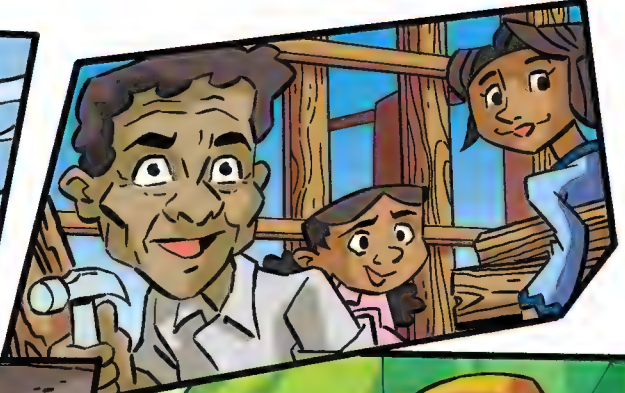
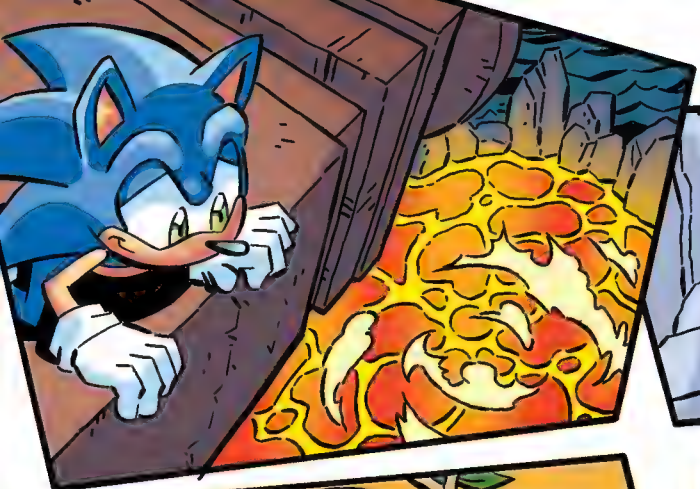
GOTCHA
COVERED.



SCHING!





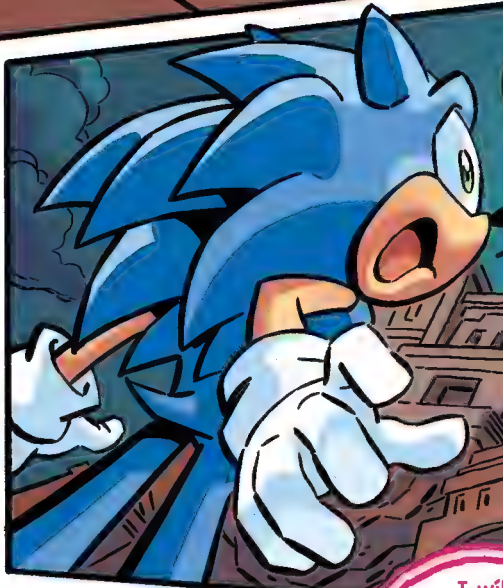
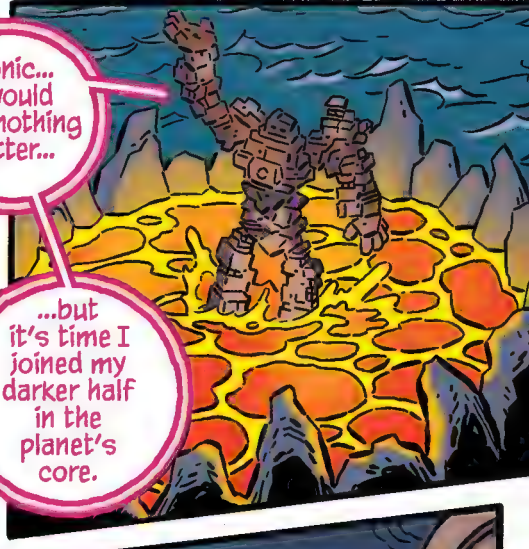




WHEW! WE DID IT, CHIP. WE SAVED THE WORLD. NOW WE CAN START PARTYING!

Sonic... I would love nothing better...

...but it's time I joined my darker half in the planet's core.



WHOA! HOLD ON! C-CAN'T THAT WAIT? YOU...YOU'VE EARNED A VICTORY LAP!

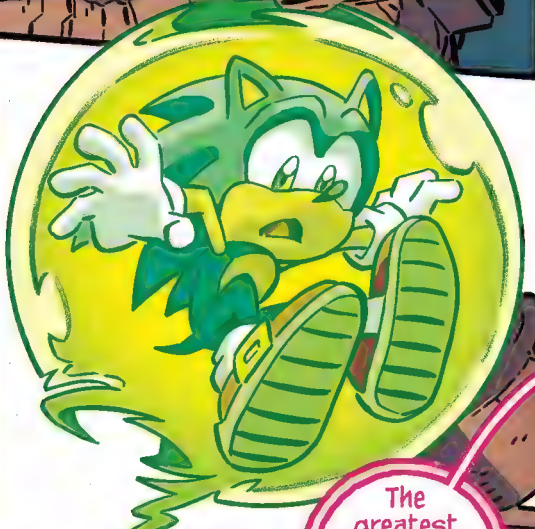
I've spent all my power in that fight. And the longer I delay, the more we risk Dark Gaia seeping back into the world.

I will take the Gaia Temples with me-- out of Doctor Eggman's reach. I'll seal this last wound in the world to keep you all safe.



GREAT, BUT--!

I don't need a reward, Sonic.




The greatest reward was adventuring with *you*.




You and all your friends.

Tails!
Rotor!
Thank you for sharing your wisdom with me.



Antoine!
Bunnie! Your love for each other showed me just what I was meant to protect in this world.



Sally!
Your bond with Nicole... I see why you could so easily accept a spirit like me. Please tell her "goodbye" for me.



Cream!
Cheese! Big!
I wish I could be closer when I say farewell, my friends.

...M-MR. CHIP?



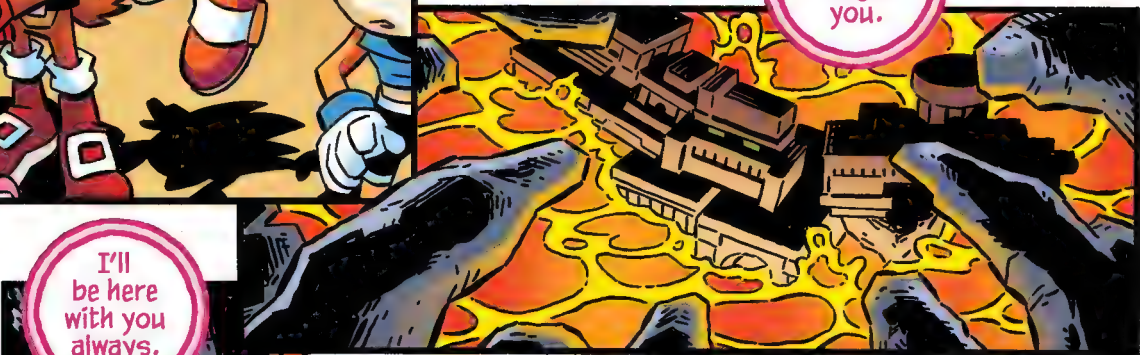
Amy is talking to Knuckles. Knuckles is sitting on a wooden platform, looking sad. Amy is standing next to him, looking thoughtful.

Amy!
Knuckles!
Thank you for inspiring me with your passion!

...Y-YOU TWO DID THAT, Y-YES?



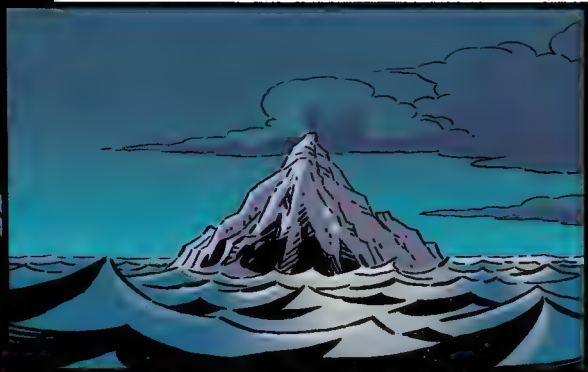
And I'll never forget you.

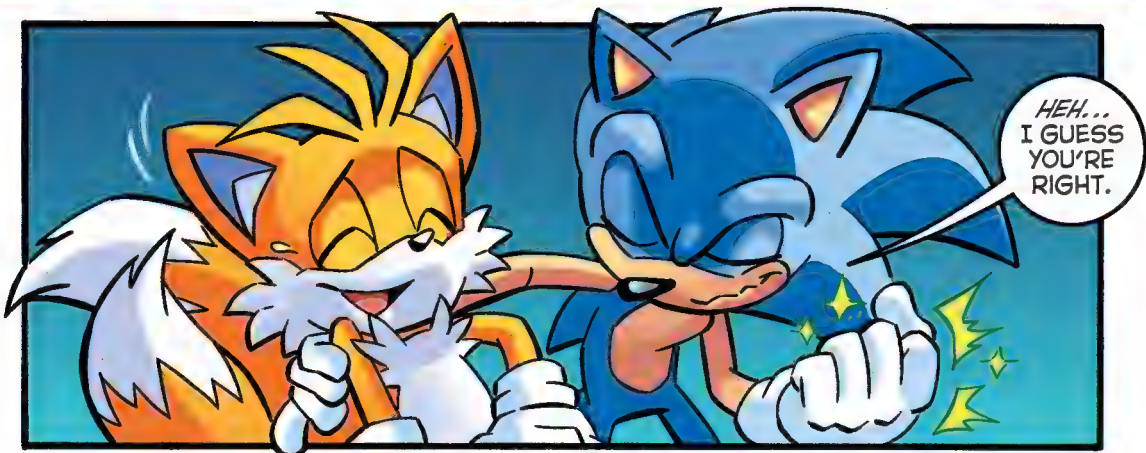


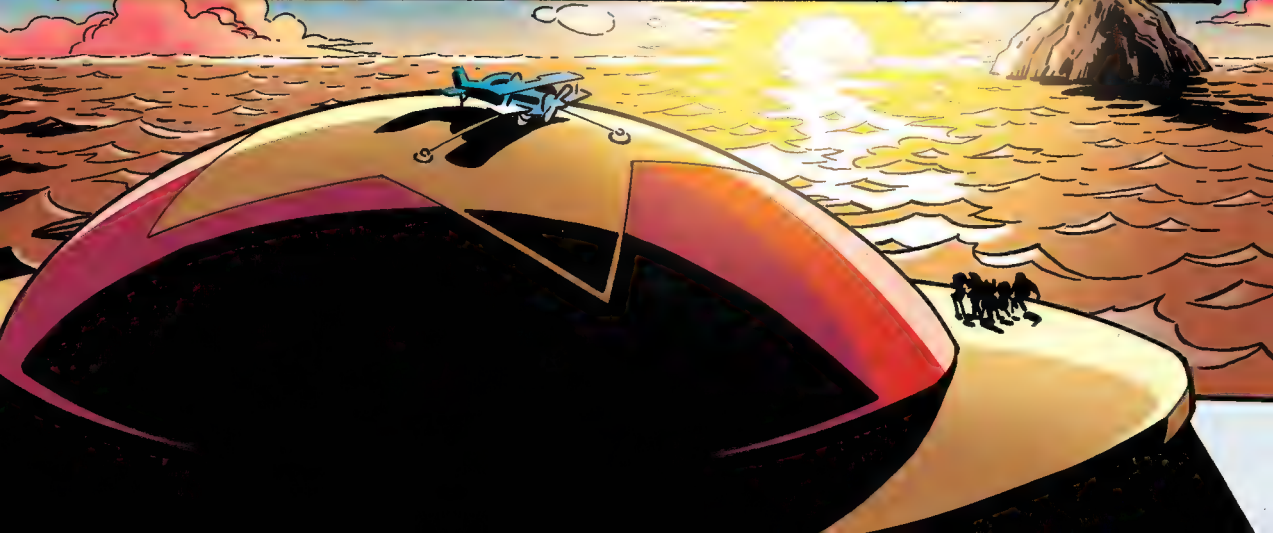
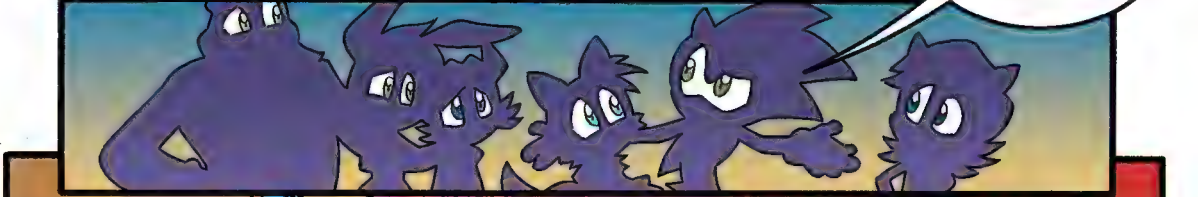
I'll be here with you always.

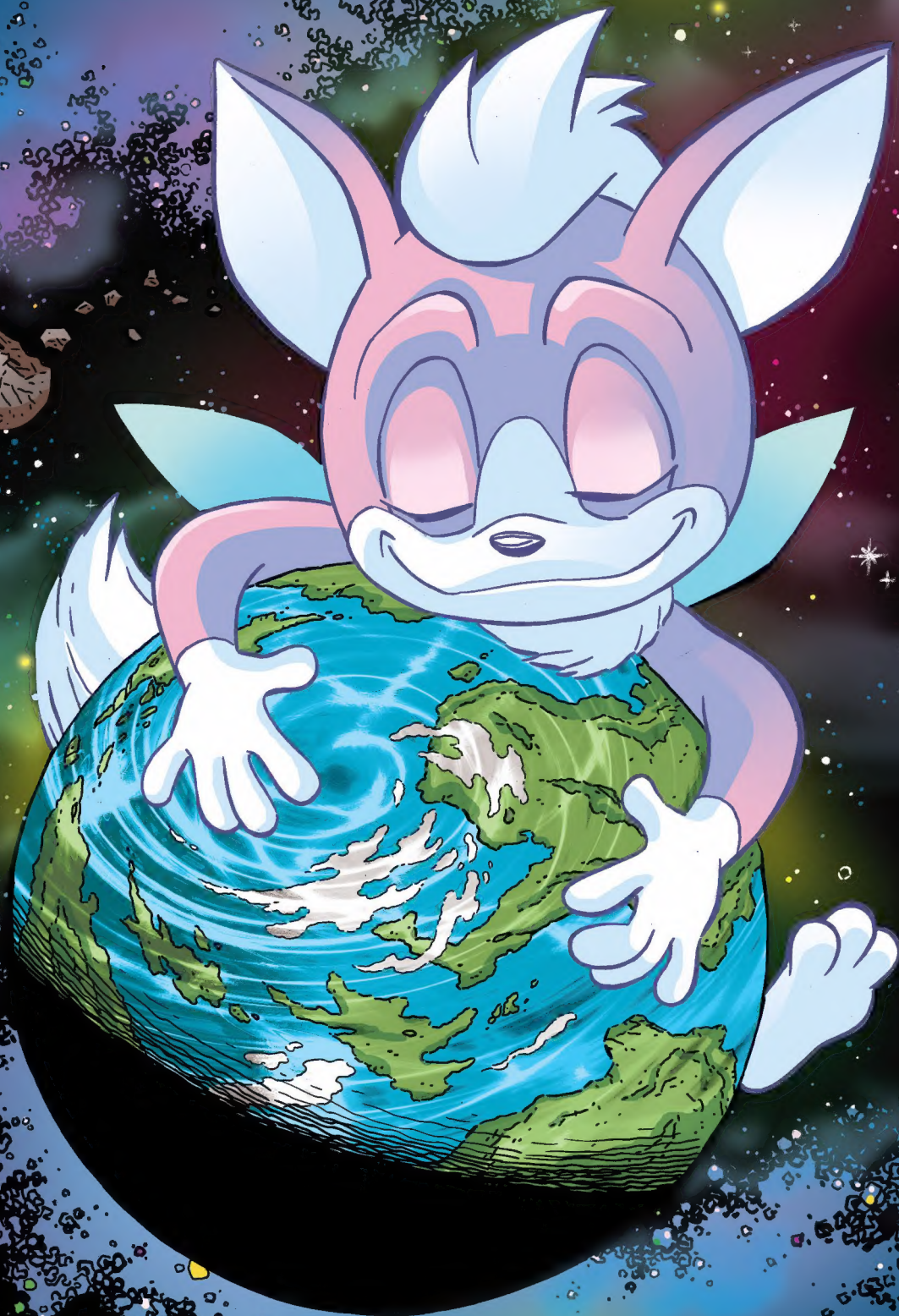


A part of the earth you tread.









THE *SHATTERED WORLD SAGA* HAS COME TO A CLOSE!
THANK YOU for joining us on this SONIC WORLD ADVENTURE!
But as one chapter ENDS, another BEGINS!
We'll see you NEXT TIME as we launch into a brand new epic!
AND UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON SONIC UNIVERSE, SONIC SUPER
DIGEST AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

Letter from the EDITOR

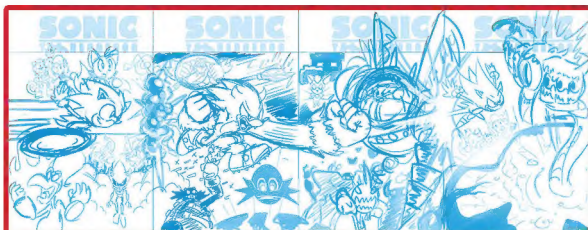
Chaos Emerald-powered editorial commentary! Just add 50 rings!



And that's how you get it done!

Was that a wild ride or what? The planet-sized jigsaw puzzle has finally been completed. So many great artists have lent their talents to tell this grand story and it's so satisfying seeing the end result. Hats off to the creative team on a job well done and a saga well told.

Just in case you missed it, **Tracy Yardley** has made his grand return this issue, and will continue pencilling for our next storyline, "**Genesis of a Hero**"! This special story will honor the Blue Blur's 25-year history by turning back the clock to Sonic's earliest adventures and reveal some key moments in Sonic's history!



STH #284-287 connecting cover concept written by Ian Flynn and sketched by yours truly!

That's all for now. Stay classy, Sonic fans! See you next issue!

- Vincent "Vin" Lovallo
Editor

Guess who's back, back again? Tracy's back! Tell a friend, because "**Genesis of a Hero**" begins in **STH #288!**



SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

SONIC GRAMS

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OFF PANEL

BFF BUFFET OR Special Friends



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NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 288



GENESIS
OF A HERO

PART ONE